

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masakazu FUNAHASHI

Confirmation No. 7969

Serial No. 10/549,801

Group Art Unit 1772

Filed: November 21, 2005

For:

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

September 5, 2007

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, which reference is the U.S. equivalent of Japanese Laid-Open Publication No. 04-175395 for which an English-language abstract is provided herewith.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that this reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any requisite fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified) S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office				Attorney's Docket No. 28955.4035		Application No. 10/549,801	
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant		Applicant Masakaz	Applicant Masakazu FUNAHASHI				
(Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Filing Date September	Filing Date September 19, 2005		Group Art Unit 1772		
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U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	5,153,073	10/6/1992	Ohnuma et al	428	461	
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	Foreig	n Patent Doc	uments or P	ublished Foreigi	n Patent	Applic	ations	
Examiner	Desig.	Document	Publication	Country or		Subcl Translation		
Initial	ID	Number	Date	Patent Office	Class	ass	Yes	No
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Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)				
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	AT			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered					
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with						
next communication to applicant.						